

structure which favors debt and is prejudiced toward debt, being institutionalized and solidified over and over again.

Mr. President, I thank you for allowing me the opportunity to speak. I want to say that because I believe this omnibus appropriations bill which is now before the Senate will impair our ability to reach a balanced budget in the year 2002, I intend to vote against it. I intend to vote against it because I want to vote in favor of the next generation and their capacity to allocate their own resources. I want to vote in favor of discipline and against debt. I want us to have not only the ability to put our House in order, I would like to have us enjoy the structure which would require us to keep our House in order.

I hope that other Members of this body will similarly review the evidence as I have and come to a similar conclusion; a conclusion that it is not time for us to additionally burden the next generation, but to exercise the kind of restraint and discipline which will provide for them investment and opportunity, rather than debt.

I thank the Chair.

COMMENDING JEAN SCHRAG LAUVER

Mr. CHAFEE. Mr. President, today I come to the floor in what you might call a bittersweet mood, and that is to announce to my colleagues the retirement of one of our most trusted Senate advisers, Ms. Jean Lauver, who has served on the Environment and Public Works Committee for over 21 years.

Together with Senator BAUCUS, the ranking Democrat, and the entire membership of the committee, I send a resolution to the desk to express the gratitude of the committee and of the Senate to Jean Lauver for her years of service to the U.S. Senate, and will later ask for its immediate consideration.

Mr. President, Jean was born on a farm in Sioux Falls, SD, and graduated from Goshen College in Indiana and later received a master's degree in education from George Washington University. After serving as a school teacher in Puerto Rico, Jean joined the Environment Committee staff in 1974. Jean has been with us ever since.

Anyone who knows her also knows that she is the undisputed expert in the Senate on Federal highway issues. Jean and the committee have been through scores of pieces of legislation over the past many years. There have been some great successes: The Surface Transportation Act of 1987, the so-called ISTEA bill of 1991, just to name two. There have been scores of tough battles, as well, on transportation safety issues, demonstration projects, and billboards on our highways and byways. Over the years, I have no doubt Jean has seen it all.

Yet, after all the hearings and all the bills, the meetings in room 468 Dirksen

and S-211 of the Capitol, what we will all remember most about Jean is her unflappable professionalism, her extraordinary knowledge and memory, and her dedication to doing a good job for Republicans and for Democrats alike.

Without question, Jean is one of the most extraordinary staffers that I have had the pleasure to work with. So it is with great admiration that we wish Jean and her husband, Hesston, and their son, Jason, all the best in their future endeavors. I might add that Jean and her family are off to a new challenge, and that is owning and operating a bed and breakfast in Goshen, IN. If Jean's service to the Senate is any indication, you can be sure that the Prairie Manner B&B in Goshen will be top notch. I am tempted to give a telephone number of the new B&B, but that might be considered advertisement. For anybody that is interested, I have her telephone number for the B&B they are establishing called the Prairie Manner in Goshen, IN.

I know all Senators join with me in wishing Jean good luck and thanking her for her dedicated service to the Senate and this Nation of ours. Jean, we say thank you.

I urge the adoption of the resolution, and I ask unanimous consent for its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 232) to commend Jean Schrag Lauver for her long, dedicated, and exemplary service to the United States Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the resolution?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the resolution is agreed to.

The resolution (S. Res. 232) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 232

Whereas Jean Lauver has expertly served the Committee on Environment and Public Works over the past twenty-one years, both as a majority and minority professional staff person;

Whereas Jean Lauver has helped shape federal infrastructure policy for over two decades;

Whereas Jean Lauver has at all times discharged the duties and responsibilities of her office with unparalleled efficiency, diligence and patience;

Whereas her dedication, good humor, low key style and ability to get along with others are a model for all of us in the Senate; and

Whereas Jean Lauver's exceptional service has earned her the respect and affection of Republican and Democratic Senators and their staffs alike: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the United States Senate—expresses its appreciation to Jean Schrag Lauver and commends her for twenty-one years of outstanding service to the Senate and the country.

BALANCED BUDGET DOWNPAYMENT ACT, II

The Senate continued with consideration of the bill.

Mr. HATFIELD. Mr. President, what is the parliamentary situation?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The pending question is amendment No. 3533.

Mr. HATFIELD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to temporarily lay aside the pending amendment in order to offer an amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 3551 TO AMENDMENT NO. 3466
(Purpose: To amend title 28, United States Code, to divide the ninth judicial circuit of the United States into two circuits, and for other purposes)

Mr. HATFIELD. Mr. President, I send to the desk an amendment on behalf of Senator BURNS and ask for its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Oregon [Mr. HATFIELD], for Mr. BURNS, proposes an amendment numbered 3551 to amendment No. 3466.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment is as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert:

TITLE IX—RESTRUCTURING OF THE CIRCUITS OF THE UNITED STATES COURTS OF APPEALS

Subtitle A—Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals Reorganization

SEC. 901. SHORT TITLE.

This subtitle may be cited as the "Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals Reorganization Act of 1996".

SEC. 902. NUMBER AND COMPOSITION OF CIRCUITS.

Section 41 of title 28, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in the matter before the table, by striking out "thirteen" and inserting in lieu thereof "fourteen";

(2) in the table, by striking out the item relating to the ninth circuit and inserting in lieu thereof the following new item:

"Ninth California, Hawaii, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands.";

and

(3) between the last 2 items of the table, by inserting the following new item:

"Twelfth Alaska, Arizona, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Washington.".

SEC. 903. NUMBER OF CIRCUIT JUDGES.

The table in section 44(a) of title 28, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking out the item relating to the ninth circuit and inserting in lieu thereof the following new item:

"Ninth 15";

and

(2) by inserting between the last 2 items at the end thereof the following new item:

"Twelfth 13".

SEC. 904. PLACES OF CIRCUIT COURT.

The table in section 48 of title 28, United States Code, is amended—